



# Louisiana Crop Weather Summary

Cooperating with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry  
and the Louisiana State University Ag Center  
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For Crop Week Ending Sunday, October 10, 2010      Released October 12, 2010      Volume 10 Number 32

## CROP INFORMATION

**Days suitable for fieldwork:** 7.0

**Soil moisture supplies:** 50% very short, 40% short, and 10% adequate

### Field Crops Report

Drought conditions worsened across Louisiana. As the week began, a high pressure weather pattern remained firmly in control of Louisiana’s weather and provided cool, crisp weather with very low humidity levels. Rainfall was non-existent throughout the state, thusly, the statewide precipitation for the week averaged 0.0 inches, 0.9 inches below normal. The cotton crop looked good and the harvest remained well ahead of the norm, reaching 83 percent harvested, 24 points ahead of the five-year average. Rice producers began to harvest the ratoon crop. Many rice producers were worried about cooler temps affecting ratoon crop filling panicles. Dry weather allowed rice farmers to complete fall field work but, created salinity issues for some. Ideal harvesting weather allowed for soybean, sweet potato and sugarcane harvests to remain ahead of the five-year average. Producers were concerned about being able to plant winter wheat because with the dry conditions, tillage seemed all but impossible in some areas.

### Fruits, Vegetables and Specialty Crops

Strawberry plants were planted. Producers irrigated cabbage, tomato and cucumber fields. Fall tomatoes were harvested. Citrus producers prepared to harvest satsumas. Pecan harvest continued, slightly ahead of the five-year average. Crawfish farmers finished up flooding ponds. Dry weather allowed salinity levels to creep up in some irrigation canals, a cause for concern for some growers who were flooding crawfish ponds.

### Livestock, Pasture and Range Report

Cattle producers sold calves and wormed cows. Pastures suffered for lack of rain and hay was being fed. Some producers held off on ryegrass plantings and were concerned with whether they would still plant ryegrass. Livestock producers were also concerned about the potential danger of grass and woodland fires given the extremely dry conditions.

PERCENT OF PROGRESS					
CROP	STAGE	Current Week	Last Week	2009	5 YR AVG
Cotton	Harvested	83	75	22	59
Hay	Second cutting	100	99	96	99
Pecans	Harvested	12	5	9	8
Rice	Harvested	99	98	96	98
Soybeans	Dropping Leaves	99	95	91	95
	Harvested	87	76	62	79
Sugarcane	Planted	99	99	97	95
	Harvested	10	4	4	5
Sweet potatoes	Harvested	56	40	24	45

CONDITIONS IN PERCENTAGES					
ITEM	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT
Sugarcane	2	11	28	34	25
Sweet Potatoes	4	6	28	61	1
Livestock	7	18	38	33	4
Vegetables	22	25	37	16	0
Pasture	26	37	26	10	1

LOUISIANA OFFICE OF STATE CLIMATOLOGY, LSU, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA  
LOUISIANA WEATHER SUMMARY FROM 10/04/10 TO 10/10/10

	AIR				WEEKLY TOTAL	PRECIPITATION		
	MAX	TEMPERATURE MIN	AVE	NRM		FOUR WEEKS	YR. TO DATE	NORM
1. Northwest								
LSU-Bossier City	91	40	64	69	0.00	0.04	19.16	39.05
Minden	91	40	63	68	0.00	0.08	25.84	42.08
Mooringsport	91	41	65	MM	0.00	0.05	29.19	35.49
Extreme/Average	91	40	64	69	0.00	0.06	24.73	40.07
2. North-Central								
LSU-Calhoun	89	38	62	69	0.00	0.51	26.41	42.50
Homer/Hill Farm	93	(33)	61	67	0.00	0.00	27.03	42.53
ULM-Monroe	93	39	65	69	0.00	0.56	27.36	44.05
Columbia Lock	93	43	65	MM	0.00	0.13	20.02	45.51
Extreme/Average	93	33	63	68	0.00	0.30	25.21	43.44
3. Northeast								
Lake Providence	92	43	65	69	0.00	0.23	22.71	44.78
LSU-St Joseph	91	39	64	69	0.00	0.20	28.38	43.32
LSU-Winnsboro	(94)	40	64	69	0.00	1.89	25.13	42.77
Tallulah	92	41	65	68	0.00	0.27	27.06	44.70
Extreme/Average	94	39	64	69	0.00	0.65	25.82	43.85
4. West-Central								
Leesville	93	36	63	69	0.00	0.12	24.15	43.83
LSU-Rosepine	93	43	65	70	0.00	0.34	30.98	45.00
Natchitoches	92	40	66	70	0.00	0.00	22.62	41.49
Ashland	92	33	60	68	0.00	0.53	21.32	41.93
Extreme/Average	93	33	64	69	0.00	0.44	21.32	42.72
5. Central								
Alexandria	93	46	66	71	0.00	1.10	34.20	45.91
Bunkie	91	41	65	70	0.00	0.38	41.72	47.08
LSU-Alexandria	94	43	66	70	0.00	0.29	32.19	44.65
Extreme/Average	94	41	66	70	0.00	0.59	36.04	46.52
6. East-Central								
Franklinton 5SW	91	45	65	MM	0.00	0.15	41.66	MM.MM
LSU-Baton Rouge	88	44	65	71	0.00	0.07	36.84	49.03
Amite	94	38	63	70	0.00	0.01	39.46	52.89
LSU-Hammond	91	40	64	70	0.00	0.48	38.85	51.43
Slidell	84	46	64	72	0.00	2.80	54.96	50.77
Extreme/Average	94	38	64	71	0.00	0.70	42.35	51.39
7. Southwest								
DeRidder	92	46	66	71	0.00	0.00	32.26	46.64
Jennings	91	44	65	72	0.00	0.82	39.28	47.36
LSU-Crowley	91	45	66	72	0.00	1.22	34.54	47.29
Extreme/Average	92	44	66	72	0.00	0.68	35.36	48.12
8. South-Central								
Donaldsonville	87	45	64	72	0.00	3.60	44.14	49.80
LSU-Jeanerette	88	46	65	71	0.00	2.40	46.27	50.46
Morgan City	85	55	68	73	0.00	0.57	34.19	53.14
Extreme/Average	88	45	66	72	0.00	3.00	45.21	50.90
9. Southeast								
Galliano	87	52	66	73	0.00	1.99	53.76	54.46
Houma	90	41	64	73	0.00	1.80	46.67	52.82
Terrytown 3S	90	52	68	MM	0.00	1.17	45.81	MM.MM
Reserve	91	49	68	72	0.00	0.00	45.66	53.15
Extreme/Average	91	41	67	73	0.00	1.65	48.75	52.59
State								
Extremes/Averages	94	33	65	70	0.00	0.83	34.46	46.90

M = Missing ( ) = Extremes Yr. to Date = Through October 10, 2010

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